

Secretary's ofc.



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554
JAN 14 1997

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JAN 16 1997

The Honorable Robert E. Andrews
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
506A White Horse Pike
Haddon Heights, New Jersey 08035

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Congressman Andrews:

Thank you for your letter of December 19, 1996, on behalf of your constituent, Chief W. Walker, Jr, Pitman Police Department, Pitman, New Jersey. Chief Walker expresses concern that the Commission's proposal to assign channel 21 to a television station currently licensed to Vineland, New Jersey, would seriously effect emergency communications in Pitman and the surrounding Gloucester County communities and have a severe financial impact on the community of Pitman to replace its existing public safety radio equipment at considerable expense.

On July 25, 1996, the Commission proposed policies for allotting channels for DTV service and also provided a draft DTV Table of Allotments. (See Sixth Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in ~~MM~~ **Docket No. 87-268**, FCC No. 96-317, released August 14, 1996). In that action, the Commission proposed to provide all existing television broadcasters with a second 6 MHz channel for digital broadcasting. The Commission's plan for allotment of DTV channels would maintain the channels currently used for land mobile operations in a number of major markets, including channels 19 and 20 in the Philadelphia and adjacent New Jersey region. While our draft DTV Table would provide for use of channel 21 in Vineland, New Jersey, we believe that engineering solutions are available for avoiding interference between DTV and land mobile operations on adjacent frequencies. At the same time, we understand the potential for interference between existing land mobile services and new DTV operations in the Philadelphia/New Jersey region. Please be assured that we are carefully evaluating all available alternatives for maintaining the interests of land mobile operators as well as broadcasters as we develop the DTV Table of Allotments.

We will also include a copy of your letter in MM Docket No. 87-268. Thank you again for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Smith
Chief
Office of Engineering and Technology

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List ABCDE

ROBERT E. ANDREWS
FIRST DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3001

December 19, 1996

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Mr. Reed Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20554-3505

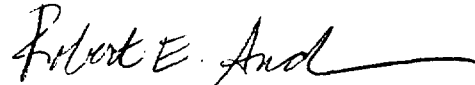
Dear Chairman Hundt:

I write to you on behalf of Chief W. Walker, Jr., Pitman Police Department, Borough of Pitman, 110 S. Broadway, Pitman, NJ 08071, who has contacted my office for assistance. Enclosed please find correspondence regarding an FCC proposal which would effect the reassignment of Channel 21. Chief Walker states that the proposal would drastically effect emergency service operations in the Borough of Pitman and the surrounding Gloucester County communities.

I would appreciate if you would afford Chief Walker all due consideration under the law in his efforts. In addition I would be interested in receiving your review and reply to this correspondence so that I may advise him accordingly.

Please forward your response to the attention of my aide, Ms. Susan Gronek, at 506A White Horse Pike, Haddon Heights, NJ 08035, (609) 546-5100, Fax: (609) 546-9529. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



ROBERT E. ANDREWS
Member of Congress

REA:smg
enc.

REPLY TO:

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(202) 225-6501

☐ 16 SOMERDALE SQUARE
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e-mail et:randrews@hr.house.gov

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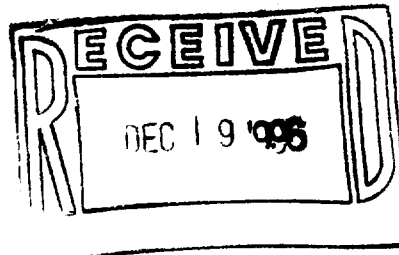
NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SEAN F. DALTON
ASSEMBLYMAN, 4TH DISTRICT
PARTS OF CAMDEN-GLOUCESTER COUNTIES
121 JOHNSON ROAD, SUITE 2
TURNERSVILLE, NJ 08012
(609) 232-5320
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COMMITTEES
ASSEMBLY LABOR COMMITTEE
ASSEMBLY COMMERCE AND MILITARY
AND VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

November 27, 1996

The Honorable Robert Andrews
United States Representative
63 North Broadway
Woodbury, NJ 08096



Dear Congressman Andrews:

RE: Charles W. Walker, Jr., Chief of Police
Borough of Pitman
110 So. Broadway
Pitman, NJ 08071

I am enclosing copies of a self-explanatory letter I recently received from Charles W. Walker, Jr., Pitman Borough Chief of Police, concerning a proposal by the FCC which would effect the reassignment of Channel 21, and could seriously effect emergency communications in Pitman and the surrounding Gloucester County communities.

While I can appreciate Chief Walker's concerns, as a state legislator, I am unable to directly affect those matters that are under the jurisdiction of the federal government.

I would be most appreciative if you would review this situation to insure that the concerns expressed by Chief Walker are thoroughly addressed.

Please forward any pertinent information or correspondence concerning this matter to the attention of my legislative aide, Perri.

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Dalton", written in a cursive style.

Sean F. Dalton

Assemblyman, Fourth District

SFD/sld

enclosure

cc: Charles W. Walker, Jr.



NOV 13 1996

Pitman Police Department

110 South Broadway
Pitman, N.J. 08071

Tel: 609-589-3500
Fax: 609-589-5050

November 8, 1996

Assemblyman Sean F. Dalton
121 Johnson Road
Suite 2
Turnersville, NJ 08012

Re: FCC Mass Media Docket #87-268

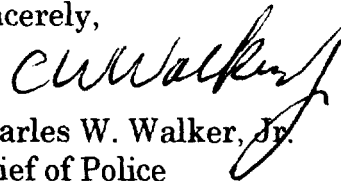
Dear Assemblyman Dalton:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter that I recently sent to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The letter is in opposition to a proposal in the above mentioned docket that could seriously effect emergency communications here in Pitman and the surrounding Gloucester County communities.

Due to the fact that the proposal has potentially far reaching ramifications I respectfully request that you look into the matter and, if possible, take steps to prevent it's implementation.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Walker, Jr.
Chief of Police

Coordinator
Office of Emergency Management

enc.



Pitman Police Department

110 South Broadway
Pitman, N.J. 08071

Tel: 609-589-3500
Fax: 609-589-5050

November 8, 1996

Secretary, FCC
1919 M. Street NW
Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Advanced Television Systems
MM Docket no. 87-268
And their impact upon the
Existing Television Broadcast Service

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I have recently learned that the Broadcast Industry has made a proposal to the FCC for the use of the 500 to 512 MHZ bands for the purpose of developing a high definition TV system. These frequencies are currently being used by Emergency Services Departments (police, fire/rescue, ambulance, and emergency management) here in Pitman and other communities in surrounding Gloucester County.

The assignment of these frequencies to the Broadcast Industry would render them unusable to the Emergency Services Community. The financial impact in tax dollars, just in Pitman, would be \$147,000.00 to replace communications equipment. While that figure might be a "drop in the bucket" for a commercial TV station, it is an extremely large figure for a small, suburban municipality like ours. I am sure that the other 24 municipalities in Gloucester County face similar or even higher costs. Additionally, the disruption to emergency communications could endanger the lives and property of the citizens of Pitman and the surrounding communities.

I strongly urge that the FCC does not grant approval of the above docket, and that steps are taken to protect our citizens of the possible consequences of the proposed change.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Walker, Jr.
Chief of Police
Coordinator
Office of Emergency Management

CC:

U.S. Senator Bill Bradley

U.S. Senator Frank R. Lautenberg

Rep. Frank A. LoBiondo

NJ Sen. John J. Matheussen

NJ Sen. George F. Geist

